We Claim:

1. A method for copying documents with an image reproducing apparatus, said method comprising the steps of:

providing an image reproducing apparatus, said image reproducing apparatus including memory, a processor, a user interface and a reproducing surface, said reproducing surface possessing a first dimension;

reproducing a document, said document possessing a second dimension, said second dimension being greater than said first dimension, said reproducing occurring in portions of less than the whole document, said image reproducing apparatus holding an image of each said document portion in memory;

manipulating said document portions in memory so that said document portions align to form a continuous image and so as to eliminate any duplicative overlapping document portion.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

printing said continuous image as the output of said image reproducing apparatus.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of:

reducing said continuous image in memory to a dimension compatible with print media available to said image reproducing apparatus prior to printing said continuous image.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein a user of said image reproducing apparatus affixes a mark on said document such that said mark will be contained within the image of each said document portion stored in memory.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein image processing software overlays said mark from an image of one portion of said document with the same mark contained in an image of an adjoining portion of said document to form said continuous image in memory.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein said mark is made with an ink recognizable by said image processing software, said image processing software deleting said recognized ink mark from said continuous image in memory prior to printing said continuous image.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein said mark is made in a manner recognizable by said image processing software, said image processing software deleting said mark from said continuous image in memory by replacing said mark with adjacent image content prior to printing said continuous image.

8. The method of claim 5 further comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface for said image reproducing apparatus, said user interface including a display component and user controls, said controls enabling a user to align said images; and

aligning said mark by a user using said controls to manipulate images of said document portions rendered on said display component.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said image processing software overlays a recognizable feature contained in an image from one portion of said document with the same recognizable feature contained in an image from an adjoining portion of said document to form said continuous image in memory.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said image processing software executes automatically without user instruction.

11. The method of claim 9 further comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface, said user interface including a display component; and

submitting said continuous image to a user for verification of proper reassembly by displaying it on said display component.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein said image processing software connects a recognizable feature contained in an image from one portion of said document with the same recognizable feature contained in an image from an adjoining portion of said document to form said continuous image in memory.

13. A method for reproducing documents with an electronic device, said electronic device equipped with a scanner and printer, said method comprising the steps of:

providing an electronic device, said electronic device including memory, a user interface and a processor;

further providing a scanner incorporated into said electronic device, said scanner including a scanning surface, said scanning surface possessing a first dimension;

scanning a document, said document possessing a second dimension, said second dimension being greater than said first dimension, said scanning occurring in portions of less than the whole document, said electronic device holding an image of each document portion in memory;

manipulating said document portions in memory so that said document portions align to form a continuous image and so as to eliminate any duplicative overlapping document portion.

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of:

printing said continuous image with a printer incorporated into said electronic device.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of:

reducing said continuous image in memory to a dimension compatible with print media available to said printer prior to printing said continuous image.

16. The method of claim 13 wherein a user of said electronic device affixes a mark on said document such that said mark will be contained within the image of each said document portion stored in memory.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein said image processing software overlays said mark from an image of one portion of said document with the same mark contained in an image of an adjoining portion of said document in forming said continuous image in memory.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein said mark is made with an ink recognizable by said image processing software, said image processing software deleting said recognized ink mark from said continuous image in memory prior to printing said continuous image.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein said mark is made in a manner recognizable by said image processing software, said image processing software deleting said mark from said continuous image in memory by replacing said mark with adjacent image content prior to printing said continuous image.

20. The method of claim 17 further comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface for said scanner, said user interface including a display component and user controls, said controls enabling a user to align said images; and

aligning said mark by a user using said controls to manipulate images of said document portions rendered on said display component.

21. The method of claim 13 wherein said image processing software overlays a recognizable feature contained in an image from one portion of said document with the same recognizable feature contained in an image from an adjoining portion of said document to form said continuous image in memory.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein said image processing software executes automatically without user instruction.

23. The method of claim 21 further comprising the steps of:

providing a user interface, said user interface including a display component; and

submitting said continuous image to a user for verification of proper reassembly by displaying it on said display component.

24. In a computer system, a method for copying documents, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a computer system, said computer system including memory, a user interface and a processor;

further providing a scanner connected to said computer system, said scanner including a scanning surface, said scanning surface possessing a first dimension;

scanning a document, said document possessing a second dimension, said second dimension being greater than said first dimension, said scanning occurring in portions of less than the whole document, said electronic device holding an image of each document portion in memory;

manipulating said document portions in memory so that said document portions align to form a continuous image and so as to eliminate any duplicative overlapping document portion.

25. The method of claim 24 further comprising the step of:

printing said continuous image with a printer connected to said computer system.

26. The method of claim 25 further comprising the step of:

reducing said continuous image in memory to a dimension compatible with print media available to said printer prior to printing said continuous image.

27. The method of claim 24 wherein a user of said computer system affixes a mark on said document such that said mark will be contained within the image of each said document portion stored in memory.

28. The method of claim 24 wherein said image processing software overlays said mark from an image of one portion of said document with the same mark contained in an image of an adjoining portion of said document to form said continuous image in memory.

29. The method of claim 28 wherein said mark is made with an ink recognizable by said image processing software, said image processing software deleting said recognized ink mark from said continuous image in memory prior to printing said continuous image.

30. The method of claim 28 wherein said mark is made in a manner recognizable by said image processing software, said image processing software deleting said mark from said continuous image in memory by replacing said mark with adjacent image content prior to printing said continuous image.

31. The method of claim 28 further comprising the steps of:

displaying said mark on a display component for said computer system; and

aligning said mark with user input commands to said image processing software to manipulate images of said document portions rendered on said display component.

32. The method of claim 24 wherein said image processing software overlays a recognizable feature contained in an image from one portion of said document with the same recognizable feature contained in an image from an adjoining portion of said document in forming said continuous image in memory.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein said image processing software executes automatically without user instruction.

34. The method of claim 32 further comprising the steps of:

providing a display component with said computer system; and

submitting said continuous image to a user for verification of proper reassembly by displaying it on said display component.